

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: August 6, 2003

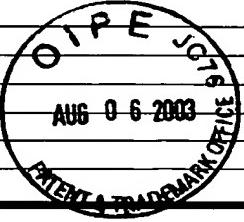
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/824,692
Filing Date	04/04/2001
First Named Inventor	Yuji UOTA
Group Art Unit	2122
Examiner Name	Unknown

Attorney Docket Number 045054-0139

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
MY	A1	6,157,947		WATANABE et al.	12/05/2000	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
MY	A2	JP	8-235231			09/13/1996		
MY	A3	JP	9-204459			08/05/1997		
MY	A4	JP	11-224284			08/17/1999		

RECEIVED
AUG 07 2003

Technology Center 2100

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
MY	A5	KOICHI SATO, et al., Information Processing Society, National Conference Proceedings, March 14, 1997, Vol. 54, No. 3; pages 195-196	
MY	A6	KIYOMI DAISHIDO et al., Information Processing Society Research Reports, Data Processing Association, June 18, 1997, Vol. 97, No. 59, pages 25-31.	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

4/14/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.